

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 DPW-01 IO-13 ACDA-19 AID-20 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03

RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 RSR-01 /133 W

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P 051222Z JUL 73

FM USDEL JEC PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 96

INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: VS, PINT

SUBJECT: GVN-PRG BILATERALS: 15TH PLENARY, JULY 4, 1973

1. SUMMARY. THERE WAS NO SUBSTANTIVE PROGRESS. EACH SIDE'S PREPARED STATEMENT ATTEMPTED TO DISCREDIT THE OTHER'S PROPOSALS OF JUNE 28 WHILE UPHOLDING ITS OWN PLAN. IN TONE, THERE WAS A MARKED CONTRAST BETWEEN THE PRESENTATIONS: THE GVN USED A CONCILIATORY APPROACH, WHILE THE PRG DELIVERED STRIDENT PROPAGANDA AGAINST ALLEGED GVN-US VIOLATIONS OF THE CEASE-FIRE. POST-SESSION PRESS CONFERENCES WERE IN THE SAME RESPECTIVE VEINS. IT WAS AGREED TO RECONVENE JULY 11. END SUMMARY.

2. DEPUTY PRIMIN VIEN (GVN) PRESENTED A CRITIQUE OF THE PRG JUNE 28 PROPOSALS. HE HELD THAT THESE WERE REHASHES OF "SUBJECTIVE" MATERIAL, REplete WITH INVECTIVE AND INACCURACIES. THE PRG PROPOSALS CONTAINED ESPECIALLY SERIOUS DEFICIENCIES NOT ONLY BY STIPULATING NUMEROUS PRECONDITIONS BEFORE ELECTIONS COULD OCCUR BUT ALSO IN FAILING TO SET A FIRM DATE FOR ORGANIZING ELECTIONS. MOREOVER, THE PRG HAD MADE ONLY "VAGUE STATEMENTS" ABOUT THE PROBLEM OF ARMED FORCES IN SVN.

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EM MAIN ADVANTAGES OF THE GVN PROPOSALS, VIEN

CONTINUED, WERE THE PRECISE CALENDAR PRESCRIBED AND THE PROVISION FOR SIMULTANEOUS RESOLUTION OF MILITARY AND POLITICAL ISSUES. SINCE THE PRG HAD DEMANDS THAT THE BILATERAL CONFERENCE AGREE ON "FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES" BEFORE UNDERTAKING NEGOTIATIONS ON SPECIFIC QUESTIONS, THE GVN COULD ACCEPT DOING SO. VIEN ATTEMPTED TO CHARACTERIZE THE GVN PLAN AS PROVIDING SUCH FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES TO GUIDE THE DELIBERATIONS OF THE FOUR SPECIALIZED COMMISSIONS. HE CALLED FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF THESE COMMISSIONS WITHOUT DELAY.

4. HIEU (PRG) CHARGED THAT GVN WITH NOT HAVING CHANGED POSITION "AN IOTA." THE GVN JUNE 28 PROPOSALS REPRESENTED MULTIPLE CONTRAVENTIONS OF THE AGREEMENT, PROTOCOLS, AND JOINT COMMUNIQUE. HIEU CALLED FOR A "CORRECT" GVN RESPONSE TO THE PRG JUNE 28 PROPOSALS.

5. THE LARGER PORTION OF HIEU'S REMARKS WAS DEVOTED TO THE SITUATION IN SVN SINCE JUNE 13. HE ALLEGED THAT THE GVN, AIDED AND ABETTED BY THE US, HAD VIOLATED CEASE-FIRE II UNINTERRUPTEDLY. HE GAVE EXAMPLES, INCLUDING ALLEGED DIVISION-LEVEL ARVN ATTACKS IN CHOUNG THIEN AND KONTUM, THE LATTER ALSO ALLEGEDLY SUBJECTED TO VNAF BOMBING AND GAS ATTACKS. BY THE END OF JUNE THE GVN HAD ALLEGEDLY "ARRESTED, LIQUIDATED OR DETAINED IN CONCENTRATION CAMPS" A TOTAL OF 300,000 PERSONS. (ON LEAVING THE CONFERENCE HIEU DENOUNCED TO THE PRESS US "LOGISTICAL AND FINANCIAL SUPPORT" OF THE GVN.)

6. AT BRIEF POST-SESSION PRESS CONFERENCES DAN (GVN) MAINTAINED A NON-POLEMICAL STANCE, WHILE SAU (PRG) DID NOT. REPEATING AN EARLIER REMARK OF HIEU'S, SAU SAID THAT THE GVN MAINTAINED A POLICY OF USING FORCE IN SVN ALTHOUGH THE US MILITARY FORCES HAD BEEN UNABLE TO MAKE THAT POLICY SUCCEED. SAU ALSO QUOTED HIEU TO THE EFFECT THAT, LIKE HITLER, THE GVN TRIED TO DENY THE EXISTENCE OF CONCENTRATION CAMPS, WHEREAS THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL REPORT, AND THE GVN EXPULSION OF THE ASAHI SHIMBUN CORRESPONDENT, WERE BUT THE MOST RECENT PROOF.

7. THE TWO SIDES AGREED TO RECONVENE JULY 11.  
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